

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/542,003

Examiner

Karen Cheng

Applicant(s)

STURMER, RAINER

Art Unit

1626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendments filed 06/13/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are claim 6, now renumbered as claim 1.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-9 are currently pending in the instant application. Claims 1-5 and 7-9 have been cancelled by applicant. The non-cancelled claim has been renumbered as claim 1.

Response to Amendments

Applicant's amendments found in Amendment – After Non-Final Rejection, filed 06/13/2007, have been fully considered and are entered. The claim objection of claim 8 has been withdrawn in view of applicant's cancellation of the claim. The rejections under 35 USC 103(a) of claims 6-7 have been withdrawn in view of applicant's cancellation of the claim.

Statement of Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

This invention relates to a process of preparing (+)-(S)-N-methyl-3-(1-naphthyloxy)-3-(2-thienyl)propylamine oxalate which starts from the reaction of thiophene with 3-chloropropionic acid chloride to form 3-methylamino-1-(2-thienyl)-1-propanone, or an acid addition salt thereof, which is reduced to (1S)-3-methylamino-1-(2-thienyl)propan-1-ol, or an acid addition salt thereof in the presence of a microbial dehydrogenase, which can then be converted to (+)-(S)-N-methyl-3-(1-naphthyloxy)-3-(2-thienyl)propylamine oxalate by methods well known in the art. The closest prior art of record has been made of record (see Non-Final Rejection, 10/16/06) but fails to teach or suggest reduction of 3-methylamino-1-(2-thienyl)-1-propanone to (1S)-3-methylamino-1-(2-thienyl)propan-1-ol in the presence of a microbial dehydrogenase

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

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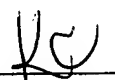
fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Karen Cheng whose telephone number is 571-272-6233. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9AM to 5:30PM EST.

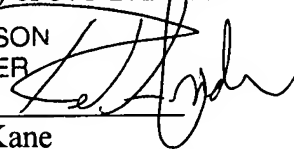
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph McKane can be reached on (571)272-0699. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Karen Cheng
Patent Examiner, AU 1626
20 June 2007

REBECCA ANDERSON
PATENT EXAMINER



Joseph McKane
Supervisory Patent Examiner, AU 1626